



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/616,186 Confirmation No. 9679
Applicant : JOHNSTON, Thomas B.
Filed : July 9, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3634
Examiner : STRIMBU, Gregory J.

Docket No. : 20060-0010
Customer No. : 26135

Mail Stop: RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) AND ACCOMPANYING
AMENDMENT AND REMARKS (37 C.F. R. § 1.114)**

Sir:

Applicant hereby requests continued examination in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. This request is being submitted prior to abandonment of the application. Applicant submits this Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and accompanying amendments and remarks and requests that the previously filed unentered amendments dated June 22, 2005 not be entered, rather this amendment be entered.

It is requested that this amendment and remarks be treated as Applicant's submission for this RCE under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, whereby Applicant is responding to the Examiner's Office Action of April 22, 2005 in which claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 14, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 35, and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,820,259 to Zveibil (hereinafter "*Zveibil*"). Claims 3, 9, 15, 23, 29, 38, 43 and 44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over the *Zveibil* patent in further view of U.S. Patent 1,551,753 to Lane (hereinafter "*Lane*"). The Examiner rejected claims 6, 26, 10, 30, 31, 11, 32, 12, 33, 13, 34, 16, 37, 17, 20, 39, 40, and 41 as being obvious over the *Zveibil* patent in further view of various other patents.

Applicant has submitted a small entity fee of \$395.00 for this RCE in addition to a fee of \$510.00 for a three month extension of time for the total sum of \$905.00.

Applicant does not believe that any other fees are due. Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any required additional fees, or credit any overpayments to deposit account number 502725.

Please enter Applicant's response into the record as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.